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North America from New Brunswick to South Carolina is considered to be wholly inadequate and the well-known facts are explained in other ways, while attention is called to certain fixed points which are exactly the same as they have been for the past 300 years.

These and many other localities and regions are cited to show that there has been no change in the relative level of sea and land within historic time and that "Measurable changes along the coast are, therefore, apart from various meteoric influences, confined to loss of land through the erosive action of the sea; to gain of land from the deposition of sediment; to sudden local subsidence of large tracts of alluvial land covered with forest or buildings; to local oscillations in the vicinity of volcanoes; and finally, but only in rare cases, to true dislocations affecting the coast, as occurred in Cook Strait in New Zealand in 1856."

Suess rejects as inconclusive the evidence of elevation along the west coast of South America in connection with the famous earthquakes of the first half of the Nineteenth century.

The first half of the third volume, which is all that has yet appeared in German, is devoted principally to the mountain ranges, ancient and modern, of Asia. The importance of the Siberian plain is brought out as being the region in which several of the old mountain systems have died out and become buried. The trend-lines of the great mountain systems are seen to describe vast and harmonious arcs indicating a common vertex in the interior of the continent. In the words of our author, "This common vertex is situated close to a crescentic fracture which surrounds the region of Irkutsk like an amphitheatre. Near the eastern border of this amphitheatre lies Lake Baikal." This vertex is called the pre-Cambrian vertex. Another and more recent vertex, the Altai, lies to the southward, while there is a great series of marginal arcs still farther south. With this as his thesis, Suess gives a connected general idea of the eastern part of Eurasia which is inspiring to the geologist, whether later investigations shall prove its every detail correct or not.

The last two chapters of this part of Volume III are devoted to Asia Minor and the eastern Mediterranean and the broad zone stretching northward throughout Europe. Here are shown the relations of the Tauride Mountains to the Dinarides and the Carnic Alps, of the Urals to the Caucasus, of central Russia to the surrounding mountains, of Scandinavia to Scotland.

Throughout the whole of Suess's great book, the reader is amazed at the breadth of reading and study displayed and the thoroughness with which all the bewildering mass of data now available has been digested and discriminately utilized. One is constantly charmed by the clearness of statement, the cogency of reasoning and the frankness regarding opposing views shown everywhere throughout these volumes. The limitations of present knowledge are carefully indicated. Geographers as well as geologists should possess themselves of this work not only on account of its store of valuable facts and references and its discussions, but also because its careful perusal and study cannot fail to give the reader a broad view of science in general and leave his mind more open than before to the reception of suggestions from every worthy source. E. O. H.

The Story of New Netherland. The Dutch in America. By William Elliot Griffis. xv and 292 pp., 13 Illustrations and Index. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston and New York, 1909. \$1.25.

This is the story of the Dutch settlers in New Netherland and what are now

the Middle States. Dr. Griffis tells what manner of men they were, how they struggled for their rights and won in their long contest, first against a selfish corporation and then against English Dukes and Kings; how they resisted every attempt of the English to fasten a state church upon the American people; how loyal their descendants were to the Continental cause and Congress and how much we Americans still owe to their enduring influence. The book is a suggestive contribution to the serious study of our national origins other than English and it is the outcome of long labour in the collection of material at home and abroad. Both the literary style of the author and the inherent interest of the subject make the work very readable.

CURRENT GEOGRAPHICAL PAPERS.

NORTH AMERICA.

CANADA. COAL.—The Big Horn Coal Basin. G. S. Malloch. *Sessional Paper* No. 26, *Summary Report* for 1908. Geol. Sur. Branch, Dep. of Mines, Ottawa, 1909.

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CANADA. FORESTRY.—The Forest Reserves. Synopsis of a lecture by A. Knechtel. *Ottawa Naturalist*, No. 2, 1909.

CANADA. GEOGRAPHIC NOMENCLATURE.—Geographic Board of Canada, Decisions April, 1909. *Canada Gazette*, May 1, 1909.

CANADA. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.—*Summary Report* for 1908 of the Geol. Sur. Branch, Department of Mines. *Sessional Paper* No. 26, A. 1909 (No. 1072). Ottawa, 1909.

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CANADA. MACKENZIE DELTA. ETHNOLOGY.—A Preliminary Report of an Ethnological Investigation of the Mackenzie Delta. V. Stefánsson. *Sessional Paper*, No. 26, *Summary Report* for 1908, Geol. Sur. Branch, Ottawa, 1909.

CANADA. MINERALS.—*Annual Report* for 1906, on the Mineral Production of Canada. *Sessional Paper* No. 26, Dep. of Mines, Ottawa, 1909.

CANADA. MINING.—Preliminary Report on Gowganda Mining Division, District of Nipissing, Ontario. Maps Ills. W. H. Collins. *Canada Dep. of Mines*, No. 1075, Ottawa, 1909.

CANADA. YUKON TERRITORY.—Preliminary Report on a Portion of the Yukon Territory, west of the Lewes River and between the Latitudes of Whitehorse and Tantalus. D. D. Cairnes. *Sessional Paper* No. 26, *Summary Report* for 1908 of the Geol. Sur. Branch, Dep. of Mines, Ottawa, 1909.

CANADA. YUKON AND NORTHWESTERN TERRITORIES.—Explorations on the Pelly, Ross and Gravel Rivers in the Yukon and Northwest Territories. J. Keele. *Sessional Paper* No. 26, *Summary Report* for 1908 of Geol. Sur. Branch, Dep. of Mines, Ottawa, 1909.